California Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Serge Haddad
City of Los Angeles
250 E. 1st Street, Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90012

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR VAN OWEN STREET BRIDGE OVER BULL CREEK (CALTRANS BRIDGE NO. 53C-1361) PROJECT (Corps' Project No. 2004-01366-KW), BULL CREEK, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (File No. 04-104)

Dear Mr. Haddad:

Regional Board staff has reviewed your request on behalf of the City of Los Angeles (Applicant) for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the above-referenced project. Your application was deemed complete on June 21, 2004.

I hereby issue an order certifying that any discharge from the referenced project will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, and with other applicable requirements of State law. This discharge is also regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003 - 0017 - DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges that have received State Water Quality Certification" which requires compliance with all conditions of this Water Quality Certification.

The Applicant shall be liable civilly for any violations of this Certification in accordance with the California Water Code. This Certification does not eliminate the Applicant's responsibility to comply with any other applicable laws, requirements and/or permits.

Should you have questions concerning this Certification action, please contact Valerie Carrillo, Lead, Section 401 Program, at (213) 576-6759.

___[Original signed by]_____ June 30, 2004
Dennis A. Dickerson Date
Executive Officer

DISTRIBUTION LIST

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ATTACHMENT A

Project Information
File No. 04-000

1. Applicant:

City of Los Angeles
250 E. 1st., Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 847-5625 Fax: (213) 847-5633

2. Applicant's Agent:

Wally Stokes
450 South Spring Street, Suite 574
Los Angeles, CA 90014

Phone: (213) 847-8789 Fax: (213) 847-8689

3. Project Name:

City of Los Angeles Bridge Improvement Program, Van Owen Street Bridge Over Bull Creek (Caltrans Bridge No. 53C-1361)

4. Project Location:

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

Longitude: 118° 24' ; Latitude: 33° 56'

5. Type of Project:

Bridge widening

6. Project Description:

Purpose: The proposed project is for the retrofit of an existing bridge to meet current State of California seismic standards.

Description: The Vanowen Street Bridge over Bull Creek spans a channelized portion of this tributary of the Los Angeles River for a total length of 60.5ft. The current curb-to-curb width of the bridge is 50.0 ft.

The Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering intends to widen the northern side of the bridge deck by 4.5 feet for a total finished width of 57.5 feet. The project will improve the bridge sufficiency rating and result in its removal form the eligible bridge list under the Federal Highway Bridge Retrofit and Replacement Program. The increase loading demand of the wider superstructure requires construction of new substructures (i.e. the lengthening of the central pier in the channel and abutments at the channel edge). The

southern portion of the existing bridge would not be altered. The new portion of the rehabilitated bridge would be constructed or reinforced concrete. No new through lanes would be added over the bridge in either direction.

The following improvements would be required within the channel for the construction of the new substructure:

- New pier and abutment extensions within the channel will require construction of footing and piles, which would result in 10 cubic yards of new permanent concrete material in the channel. Note: these values exclude additional foot materials deposited below the streambed because such material would not obstruct water flow.

- Preparation for construction of the new substructure (i.e. the pier and abutments) will require the construction of falsework, which would require the placement of 24.0 cubic yards of temporary construction material in the channel.

Improvements would also be made to the bridge railings, approach guardrails, and transition guardrails.

7. Federal Agency/Permit:	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers NWP No. 14 (Permit No. 2004-01366-KW)
8. Other Required Regulatory Approvals:	California Department of Fish and Game Streambed Alteration Agreement
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance:	The proposed project is Categorically Exempt from CEQA pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction).
10. Receiving Water:	Bull Creek (Hydrologic Unit No. 405.21)

ATTACHMENT A

Project Information
File No. 04-000

11. Designated Beneficial Uses:	MUN*, GWR, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD, BIOL *Conditional Beneficial Uses
12. Impacted Waters of the United States:	Non-wetland waters (concrete-lined channel): 1.02 temporary and 0.17 permanent acres
13. Dredge Volume:	None
14. Related Projects Implemented/to be Implemented by the Applicant:	The Bridge Improvement Program for the City of Los Angeles is an on-going program to improve all bridges within the jurisdiction of the City. The Department of Public Works and the Bureau of Engineering of the City of Los Angeles manages the design and construction of approximately 80 bridge improvement projects. These projects consist of replacements, widenings, seismic retrofits, structural improvements, and historical renovations. Twenty-one of the bridges span the Los Angeles River. Due to the implementation of construction BMPs, during construction of the Van Owen Street Bridge over Bull Creek and other bridges along the Los Angeles River, significant or adverse cumulative impacts to the Los Angeles River are not anticipated.
15. Avoidance/ Minimization Activities:	The Applicant has proposed to implement several Best Management Practices, including, but not limited to, the following: • The Contractor would be required to comply with all applicable provisions of the Development Best Management Practices Handbook-Part A Construction Activities, Second Edition; • Only rubber-tired construction equipment shall be utilized within the channel during construction; • The Contractor shall submit a list of all heavy construction equipment to be used in the channel area to the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering. The Contractor would be required to provide engineering calculations showing that no part

of the existing channel would be damaged by use of such equipment;

- Falsework loads to the channel floor would be distributed in a manner approved by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District;

- Erosion control techniques would include silt curtains under construction work to catch concrete and other construction and demolition debris before it is discharged into the channel. Other erosion control techniques would include the use of silt fences, hay bales, and sand bags to divert surface flows;

- Construction equipment would be properly maintained to prevent motor vehicle fuels or lubricants from entering the channel. The contractor would be required to ensure that all vehicle maintenance, staging, storage, and dispensing of fuels occur in designated upland staging areas; and

- All upland staging areas shall be located in such a manner as to prevent any runoff from entering he waters of the U.S.

16. Proposed Compensatory Mitigation:

The Applicant has not proposed any compensatory mitigation to offset impacts associated with this project. In order to prevent impacts to water quality, the City has proposed several BMPs prior-to, during, and after construction. The Regional Board will not require mitigation since impacts are only temporary in nature and the project is located within a concrete-lined channel, which is devoid of any vegetation.

ATTACHMENT B

Conditions of Certification
File No. 04-104

STANDARD CONDITIONS

Pursuant to §3860 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23 CCR), the following three standard conditions shall apply to this project:

1. This Certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to §13330 of the California Water Code and Article 6 (commencing with 23 CCR §3867).

2. This Certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent Certification application was filed pursuant to 23 CCR Subsection 3855(b) and the application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.

3. Certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required pursuant to 23 CCR Chapter 28 and owed by the Applicant.